

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00 OTPE-00 FCC-01

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FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8373

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETEL, TW

SUBJECT: MEETING OF PACIFIC NATIONS ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS
ISSUES

1. GROC HAS QUERIED EMBASSY ABOUT ARTICLE WHICH HAS RECENTLY APPEARED IN ENGLISH-LANGUAGE CHINA POST. ENTITLED "PACIFIC NATIONS URGED TO MEET FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS ISSUES" THE ARTICLE IS BASED ON A UPI REPORT OF JANUARY 15 ON A SPEECH REPORTEDLY MADE IN BOCA RATON, FLORIDA BY JOHN EGER, ACTING DIRECTOR OF WHITE HOUSE OFFICE OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS, AT MEETING OF ELECTRONIC INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION.

2. ACCORDING TO THE ARTICLE, EGER PROPOSED THAT PACIFIC NATIONS MEET ANNUALLY TO DISCUSS COMMON TELECOMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS AS OUTGROWTH OF PRESIDENT'S PACIFIC DOCTRINE. MEETINGS WOULD FOCUS ON ISSUES RANGING FROM TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS ON CIRCUIT ACTIVATION TO CONSIDERATION OF SOCIAL CONCERNS SUCH AS IMPACT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS ON INDIVIDUAL PRIVACY.

3. EGER REPORTEDLY PROPOSED AS INITIAL PARTICIPANTS IN PLANNING CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN MARCH 1976, U.S., JAPAN, CANADA, AUSTRALIA AND INDONESIA, WITH OTHER NATIONS TO BE ADDED LATER. AMONG OTHER NATIONS HE REPORTEDLY MENTIONED WERE ROC AND PHILIPPINES.

4. GROC INTEREST IN PARTICIPATING IN MULTILATERAL MEETING,
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PARTICULARLY WITH COUNTRIES WITH WHICH IT DOES NOT HAVE DIPLO-

MATIC RELATIONS (EXCEPT U.S.) IS OBVIOUS. H.C. FANG (FANG HIEN-CHEE), DIRECTOR GENERAL OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS, TOOK STEP UNUSUAL FOR SENIOR GROC OFFICIAL BY CALLING ON ECON COUN AT CHANCERY JANUARY 27 TO DELIVER LETTER REGARDING ARTICLE ON EGER'S SPEECH. OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH OF THAT LETTER FOLLOWS:

BEGIN QUOTE

...AS ONE OF THE MAJOR PARTNERS OF USA IN THE PACIFIC TELECOMMUNICATION NETWORK, WE ARE MOST ENTHUSIASTIC TO PARTICIPATE IN SUCH MEETING AND WISH TO START OUR PREPARATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. IT WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED IF YOU ARE ABLE TO CONTACT YOUR GOVERNMENT (OR MR. EGER DIRECTLY) FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND MAKE SURE THAT WE ARE INVITED IN TIME TO PARTICIPATE SO THAT WE MAY BE PREPARED FOR OUR CONTRIBUTION TO THIS VERY MEANINGFUL AND USEFUL STEP WHICH YOUR GOVERNMENT IS TAKING TO IMPROVE AND ENSURE A SOUND AND BETTER COMMUNICATION SYSTEM IN THIS VITAL AREA. END QUOTE

5. AS INDICATION THAT FANG WAS NOT ACTING ON HIS OWN, SUBJECT WAS RAISED WITH ECON COUN AT LUNCHEON SAME DAY BY MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS HENRY KAO (KAO YU-SHU) AND CHAIRMAN OF ECONOMIC PLANNING COUNCIL PHILIP C.C. CHANG (CHANG CHI-CHENG). BOTH INDICATED GROC WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO PARTICIPATE IN PACIFIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS CONFERENCE.

6. COPY OF CHINA POST ARTICLE AND FANG'S LETTER ARE BEING POUCHED TO EA/ROC. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE GUIDANCE IN RESPONDING TO LETTER.

POPPL

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